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RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES

BY THE

SELECTMEN

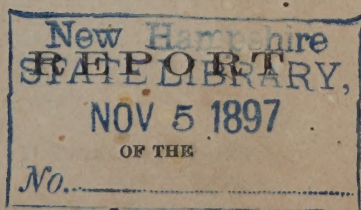
OF THE

TOWN OF STRATHAM,

FOR THE

Year ending March 4, 1861.

ALSO THE



SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

EXETER:

PRINTED BY THOMAS J. WHITTEN, AT THE BALLOT OFFICE.
1861.

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

1901

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1901

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES

OF THE

TOWN OF STRATHAM,

For the year ending March 4, 1861.

Account of Collector, Levi Chase.

Amount of tax committed to him for collection, \$2837 79

COLLECTOR CHASE'S DISCHARGE.

Paid State tax,	\$255 50
" County tax,	532 98
" Selectmen in cash,	1953 87
" Non-resident highway tax worked out,	35 91
" By abatement of taxes of sundry persons,	30 90
" Collector, for services,	28 38
" for sending State tax to Concord,	25
	\$2837 79

Stratham, March 4, 1861.

This day examined the foregoing accounts of Collector Levi Chase, and find them fairly brought, rightly cast, well vouched and balanced.

FREEMAN H. BURLEIGH,
NATHAN M. BARKER, } **Auditors.**

Money received by the Selectmen.

Received Cash of Selectmen of 1859,	115 50
" Literary Fund for 1860,	46 50
" Rail Road tax for 1860,	111 03
" of County for support of County poor to Jan. 1, 1860,	247 37
" of Collector Chase,	1953 87
	\$2474 27

Selectmen's Discharge.

OUTSTANDING DEMANDS.

Paid John French, for breaking roads in 1859,	3 75
" J. W. Rollins, " " 1858,	1 50
" J. S. Chase, for gravel in 1858-9,	5 50
" the city of Portsmouth on account of Samuel Pottle,	3 00
" Z. Wiggin, for office rent in 1858-9,	2 00
" M. F. Young, Selectmen and Auditor's expenses,	4 00
" " " to Portsmouth to settle pauper bill,	1 00
" " " to one day auditing,	1 00
" " " Services after auditing,	4 25
	10 25
" E. Chase Jr. going to Exeter,	50
" " " getting and distributing town accounts,	2 00
" " " examining Checklist at Post office,	50
	3 00

Paid J. Kimball, services after auditing	2 00
" D. Marston, support of M. A. Huntoon,	16 55
" J. Bean, work on highway in 1859,	75
" D. S. Norton, surplus for S. Norton since 1855,	2 44
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	\$50 74

Roads and Bridges.

Paid G. C. Brown, for gravel for highway,	\$3 68
" H. M. Philbrook, work on highway,	50
" A. N. Rollins, stone for bridge,	4 00
" R. B. Smith, breaking roads,	27 30
" B. F. Clark, " "	8 61
" D. Marston, " "	31 96
" D. W. Hodgdon, " "	37 30
" G. P. Hoag, " "	25 40
" E. Barker, " "	13 26
" J. G. Mallard, " "	12 50
" A. Wiggin, " "	18 12
" N. M. Barker, " "	11 25
" W. Clark, " "	16 80
" W. G. Brown, " "	20 92
" E. Chase Jr. " "	31 25
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	\$262 85

Schools.

Paid H. P. Wingate for District No. 1,	\$194 00
J. Kimball, " No. 2,	194 00
S. S. Legate, " No. 3,	194 00
J. F. Wiggin, " No. 4,	194 00
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	\$776 00

Committees.

Paid H. P. Wingate, for Prudential Committee No. 1,	\$3 00
J. Kimball, " " No. 2,	2 00
S. S. Legate, " " No. 3,	2 00
J. F. Wiggin, " " No. 4,	3 00
P. Merrill, Superintending " "	18 00
	<hr/>
	\$28 00

School Houses.

Paid repairs on school house in district No. 1,	\$5 75
" " " No. 2,	2 50
" " " No. 3,	6 47
" " " No. 4,	14 00
	<hr/>
	\$28 72

\$832 72

Sundry Expenses.

Paid T. J. Whittem, printing town accounts,	\$12 00
J. W. Moulton, blank books and Stationery,	1 72
J. H. Bailey, for nails and lead,	1 67
J. Getchell & Son, for lead and oil,	3 13
E. O. Lovering, for Clapboards,	6 25

Paid E. Smith, for 2 tables and 6 chairs,	3 00
J. F. Whidden for guide boards,	6 00
W. Bodge, supplies for S. Pottle,	16 50
John G. Cate, on account,	25 00
W. Bodge, supplies for S. Pottle,	2 84
Kelly & Gardner, lead and oil,	2 88
Town of Exeter, tax on town Farm,	15 44
J. Burleigh, interest on note,	26 06
Town Clerk of Newington, examining records,	25
City Clerk of Portsmouth, " "	60
B. L. Jones, abatement of tax	7 62
D. Wiggin, materials and work at town Farm,	31 42
Town of Kingston, for support of J. C. Robinson,	18 73
J. Smart, abatement of L. Kimball's tax in 1859,	1 21
Kelly & Gardner, for lock and knob,	69
M. Mason, for nursing Olive Mason,	1 00
John G. Cate, for benefit of town Farm,	55 00
Town of Newmarket, for support of W. Hawkins,	10 77
S. Scammon, abatement on horse,	37
A. Wentworth, support of M. Lolise and child,	5 75
G. H. Odell, medical attendance on town and county poor,	50 00
A. A. Gage, support of M. A. French,	52 00
J. E. Odell, house rent for J. L. Huntress,	6 25
A. Wiggin, flour for Michael Healey,	1 00
John G. Cate, for sundries,	17 82
G. E. Lane, services as town Clerk,	\$6 00
" recording tax list,	3 00
" " in record book,	2 50
" " marriages, births and deaths,	1 68
" Dr. Odell, " " " "	1 10
" Express, postage on stationery,	66
	<hr/>
	14 94
C. Odell, surplus interest for 1860,	40
O. L. Moulton, abatement,	1 30
Mary Robinson, board of Mary Hoag,	1 00
D. S. Norton, for watering trough,	3 00
J. O. Wiggin, services as treasurer,	7 00
" supplies to M. Healey,	1 70
G. E. Lane, taking care of Jackson Hall, ringing bell and find- ing wood,	2 87
J. G. Cate, on account,	100 00
J. O. Wiggin, selectmen's expenses,	5 00
F. H. Burleigh, services as Auditor,	1 50
N. M. Barker, " "	1 50
J. O. Wiggin, timber for guide post,	50
S. B. Swett, for visit to town farm,	1 50
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	\$525 18

Selectmen's Bills.

1860	Town of Stratham to James W. Rollins,	Dr.
March 17,	To going to Town Clerk's,	50
27,	going to North Hampton on account of a Town pauper,	1 00

March	24,	1-2 day at Exeter on Town business,	50
"	31,	attending jury meeting,	25
April	2,	one day taking inventory,	1 25
"	7,	one day in session,	1 00
"	9,	taking inventory of sundry persons,	50
"	11,	one day and evening in session,	1 25
"	21,	one evening in session,	50
May	5,	making taxes,	6 00
June	14,	going to R. B. Smith's and Town farm,	50
"	30,	going to J. O. Wiggin's,	25
July	3,	attending Jury meeting,	25
Aug.	22,	going to North Hampton on Town business,	50
Sept.	1,	1-2 day widening highway,	50
Oct.	1,	attending jury meeting,	25
"	13,	one evening in session,	50
"	19,	buying a pair of oxen for the Town Farm,	50
"	27,	going to Kingston on account of J. C. Robinson,	1 50
Nov.	3,	one evening at Jackson Hall,	50
Dec.	2,	going to New Market on pauper case,	1 25
"	19,	revising jury box,	50
"	28,	going to Exeter on account of Mrs. Mason,	50
1861.			
Jan.	9,	posting warrants for Town Meeting,	50
Feb.	5,	1-2 day at Town Farm,	50
"	22,	one evening in session,	50
"	25,	going to North Hampton on Town business,	50
March	1,	one day at Town Farm,	1 00
"	4,	one day auditing accounts,	1 00

Rec. Pay't.,

\$24 25

JAMES. W. ROLLINS.

1860		Town of Stratham to John O. Wiggin,	Dr.
March	17,	To M. F. Young's and G. E. Lane's on town business,	50
"	22,	To going to Exeter to settle bills against the town,	75
"	24,	To going to J. L. Huntress', J. E. Odell's, J. French's and Exeter on town business,	1 00
"	28,	To North Hampton on business,	75
"	31,	To attending Jury meeting,	25
April	2, 3, 4,	To three days taking inventory,	3 75
"	6, 7,	To preparing inventory of '59 and '60 to send to Concord,	2 00
"	11,	To one day making assessment,	1 00
"	21, 26,	To preparing and distributing Surveyor's books,	1 50
May	12,	To recording inventory and tax list,	2 00
"	14,	To J. W. Rollins', G. E. Lane's and J. Kimball's on town business,	75
"	15,	To going to S. Scammon's, M. F. Young's and N. M. Barker's on account of small pox,	50
"	16,	To going to Portsmouth and getting supplies for family sick with small pox,	2 00
"	17,	To going to Scammon's and Barney's on account of small pox,	50

May 17,	To going G. E. Lane's, L. Chase's and W. Wentworth's on town business,	50
June 14,	To R. B. Smith's, J. W. Rollins' and Portsmouth,	1 50
" 24,	To Newington to find settlement of pauper,	1 00
" 28,	To Dover on town business,	2 00
" 29,	To town farm and Exeter,	75
Aug. 23&25,	To Portsmouth, on account of paupers,	2 00
Sept. 1,	To half day widening roads,	50
Oct. 13,	To writing warrants and check lists,	1 00
" 18,	To Portsmouth taking Depositions and settling with County,	2 00
" 27,	To A. Wentworth's and town farm,	75
Nov. 3,	To one evening revising Check list,	50
Dec. 19,	To revising Jury box,	50
1861.		
Jan. 9,	To making warrants for town meeting,	33
" 11,	To town farm and A. Wentworth's,	75
" 12,	To town farm,	50
" 18,	To Exeter to settle with County,	1 00
Feb. 5,	To town farm and J. Chase's,	50
" 22,	To writing warrants and Check lists,	50
" 26,	To evening at town farm,	50
Mar. 1,	To one day at town farm,	1 00
" 4,	To one day auditing,	1 00

Rec'd payment,

\$36 33

March 4, 1861.

JOHN O. WIGGIN.

1860	Town of Stratham to James Kimball	Dr.
March 31	Attending jury meeting	50
April 2	Half days' work,	50
" 3, 4	Two days taking inventory,	2 50
" 7	One day in session,	1 00
" 9	Going to town farm,	50
" 10	To Greenland and to Samuel Jones' on town business,	1 00
" 11	One day and evening in session,	1 50
June 22	Going to Newington on pauper case, To John O. Wiggin, and town farm,	1 50 75
July 3	Attending jury meeting,	50
Sept. 1	Half day widening road,	62
Oct. 12	Going to Kingston on pauper case,	2 50
" 13	One evening in session,	50
" 15	Attending jury meeting,	50
" 15	For posting warrants,	25
Nov. 6	In session,	50
Dec. 19	Attending jury meeting,	50
" 31	Going to town farm,	75
1861		
Feb. 22	One evening in session,	50
" 23	Posting warrants,	50

March 2	One day at town farm,	1 00
" 4	One day auditing,	1 00

 \$19 37

Received Payment,
JAMES KIMBALL.

Recapitulation.

Outstanding demands,	50 74
Roads and Bridges,	262 85
Schools,	832 72
Sundry expenses,	525 18
Selectmen's bill,	79 95
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Expenditures,	\$1751 44
Cash in hands of Selectmen,	722 83
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Whole amount received,	\$2474 27

STRATHAM, March 4, 1861.

This day examined the foregoing accounts of the Selectmen, and find them fairly brought, rightly cast and vouched, and a balance in their hands of \$722.83

FREEMAN H. BURLEIGH, } Auditors.
NATHAN M. BARKER, }

County Poor.

Paid J. E. Odell, house rent for J. L. Huntress,	6 25
A. A. Gage, support of M. A. French,	52 00
J. O. Wiggin, supplies furnished M. Healey,	1 70
A. Wentworth, support of M. Lolise and child	5 75
S. B. Swett, visit to town farm,	1 50
G. H. Odell, attendance on County poor to March 12, 1861,	50 00
A. Wiggin, supplies to M. Healey,	1 00
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From the farm,	\$118 20
Amount due from County \$40.	115 00

Notes outstanding against the Town.

Jewett Wiggin	265 00
Phebe French	926 00
J. Burleigh	325 00
B. H. Jewett	156 00
Other claims	200 00
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	\$1872 00

Means of Payment.

Cash in Selectmen's hands	722 82	
Note of hand	106 00	
Due on bond	100 00	
Due from County	40 00	
	<hr/>	\$968 83

Amount of town debt \$903 17

Town Farm.

Expenditures	612 45	
Cash from the town	55 00	
Superintendent's services	190 00	
Labor	25 00	
	<hr/>	\$882 45

Receipts.

Receipts from farm	483 34	
Support of County poor from farm	115 00	
Mrs. Robinson, Mrs. Moore and N. Mason for wood	18 66	
Provisions &c. more than last year	119 00	
	<hr/>	\$736 00

Balance against the farm \$146 45

JAMES W. ROLLINS, } *Selectmen*
 JOHN O. WIGGIN, } *of*
 JAMES KIMBALL, } *Stratham.*

REPORT

OF THE

SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE

OF STRATHAM

For the year ending March, 1861.



The Statute of 1850 defining the duties of S. S. Committees, says :—"The Superintending School Committee shall make out annually a report, and present the same to the town at its annual meeting, stating the number of weeks which the public schools have been kept in each district, in summer and in winter, and what portion thereof has been kept by males, and what portion by female teachers ; the whole number of scholars that have attended each school ; the progress made in each school in the various branches of learning," &c., &c. The required statements may be found in the following

Statistical Table.

	District No.	1	2	3	4
Length of Summer school in weeks,		16	15	15	16
" Winter, " "		13	12 1-2	13	13
Wages of male teachers per month, including board,		\$34	34	35	34
Wages of female " " "		\$16	18	18	17 1-2
Whole number of scholars in Summer,		51	44	35	17
Average attendance " "		32	36	28	9
Whole number of scholars in Winter,		42	48	43	20
Average attendance, "		30	38	24	13
No. visits Superintending Committee,		7	7	5	6
" Prudential "		2	1	1	0
" Citizens and others,		76	92	88	23
No. different scholars in town, four years of age and upwards, attending school not less than two weeks,					216

DISTRICT No. 1.

Col. H. P. WINGATE, *Prudential Committee.*

Teacher, Summer term, Miss PRISCILLA HILLIARD, Kensington. Miss H. is an experienced teacher. She found her school in a very unfavorable state ; requiring a great deal of energy and tact to bring it into good working order. She labored with commendable patience, fidelity and perseverance ; and with as much success as could reasonably be expected. No parent or guardian visited the school during the term, Committees excepted.

Scholars not absent one day, none.

Teacher, Winter term, JAMES T. JACKSON, Danbury. Mr. J. had taught this school before. The district was fortunate in securing his services again. He is a superior teacher. In his report he says:—"Thoroughness has been our aim." In a good degree it was attained. The improvement in the several branches taught was very satisfactory, writing excepted. That was very much neglected. The County Commissioner commended this school very highly. It has some superior scholars.

No. of pupils not absent one-half day, six.

The School house has been less abused *this year* than any in town.

DISTRICT No. 2.

JAMES KIMBALL, *Prudential Committee.*

The Summer term was taught by Miss ELLEN M. TUCKER, Northwood. This School appeared well at the commencement, and maintained a high position through the term. Miss Tucker proved herself an able and successful teacher. The good order of this school was not surpassed by any in town. I was particularly pleased in noticing the good moral influence exerted by the teacher. I fear this is too little thought of by teachers and parents generally. Commendable progress was made in the different studies pursued. A good number of parents and others were present at the examination. They appeared to be interested and satisfied.

No. of pupils not absent one half day, three.

Winter term, Teacher, WM. B. HEATH, Lunenburg, Mass. I was surprised at my first visit to this school to find so much noise from whispering and loud study. At two subsequent visits I could see no reform, although I had urged it. The County Commissioner gave a gentle, but timely hint on this point. Mr Heath came recommended as a well qualified and successful teacher. He labored with a commendable degree of earnestness and zeal; but in the opinion of your Committee, he lacked one important qualification,—one without which no teacher can be successful—*ability to govern well.*

A teacher needs a great deal of firmness and dignity, in order to enforce obedience, and command respect. In this school there was evidently little deference and respect to the teacher, from *some* of the scholars. But instead, there was manifested a feeling of disrespect, boldness and pertness.

During the four visits I made to this school, I was unable to discern any evidence of "a civilizing and refining influence by the girls over the boys," in consequence of a general recess. But there was a roughness and vulgarity on the part of some of the boys which it is always painful to witness.

The school at the close, appeared as well as could be expected under the circumstances. There was less whispering than I had seen during the term. Some of the recitations were very good; but it was evident there had been a special preparation, and a particular assignment of parts, to each scholar. I was pleased with the manner of teaching Geography. Map drawing was

practiced with very good success. Some of the specimens would do credit to scholars in any of our Academies. Declamation by Master Charlie Staples was worthy of much praise. Compositions by Miss Dabymple and Margie Staples were very fine.

No. of scholars not absent one half day, five.

DISTRICT No. 3.

S. S. LEGATE, *Prudential Committee*.

Miss FRANCENA C. LEGATE, Leominster, Mass., Teacher, Summer term. This is the third term Miss Legate has taught in town, which is pretty good evidence that her services have been appreciated. I visited this school near the commencement, and the middle of the term, and was pleased with its appearance. I was not informed of the time of its closing, and consequently had not the privilege of examining it.

The Winter term was taught by HOWARD M. CHASE of this town. The order of this school at the commencement was not quite satisfactory, and I suggested some change. Some of the larger boys were not quite so well acquainted with the contents of their books as they might have been, and did not, apparently, have a very ardent desire to become so. In my next visit, a marked change in the order of the school was apparent. The Commissioner expressed his approbation of its appearance.

At the examination there were but nineteen scholars present—about the usual number the last half of the term—the most of the larger boys having seceded.

The scholars who remained, acquitted themselves with a great deal of credit. The recitations indicated close application on the part of the scholars, and faithfulness and thorough instruction on the part of the teacher. There are some superior scholars in this school; some of the best readers in town. In my opinion this district has sustained a great loss in withholding their support and sympathy from a conscientious, faithful and able teacher.

No. of scholars not absent one half day, three.

DISTRICT No. 4.

J. F. WIGGIN, *Prudential Committee*.

Teacher, Summer term, Miss ABBY S. DRAKE, Rye. Miss Drake is a teacher of considerable experience, and worthy of a larger school than she found in this District. (Average attendance, nine.) It is difficult for a teacher, or for scholars, to feel that interest in a small school, which they would in a large one. The discipline, method of instruction, and progress, met the approbation of your Committee.

Scholars not absent one half day, none.

The Winter term was under the care of BENJ. F. SANBORN, Kingston. Mr. S. has taught twice in this District before, and the Prudential Committee acted wisely in securing him for another term. He proved himself the same

thorough, energetic, high-minded teacher. The remarks on the Summer school will apply as well to the Winter.

GENERAL REMARKS.

The annual expense of our schools is pretty nearly shown by the following Table :

Amount of money raised by the town for the support of schools according to the Statute,	\$730.00
Amount of Literary Fund, (average,)	58.00
Income of Local Funds,	15.00
Repairs of School houses, (average last five years,)	57.68
Services of S. and P. Committees, " "	26.85
Tax for Teachers Institute, " "	16.75
Printing annual report,	8.00
Interest, at ten per cent. on the cost of our school houses and lots, (\$750 each—\$3,000.)	300.00

The annual expense of our schools is	\$1,212.28
This sum divided by six per cent. gives	\$20,204.66

the amount of capital invested in our schools, to say nothing of the books, board and clothing of the scholars, and the time of the older ones.

It is natural and reasonable for us to inquire, when asked to engage in any enterprise, or make investment in any Co. or in anything else,—“Will it pay? Shall we receive good dividends?”

Now it is no less natural and reasonable to inquire in relation to the sum invested in our schools,—Does it pay? Are we receiving satisfactory dividends?

If your stock in the Boston & Maine R. R. does not pay two dividends annually, of four per cent. each, you are not satisfied.

Of the importance of our schools, I need not speak. We all readily acknowledge that the future of our Town, our State, and our Nation, as well as that of each scholar, depends very much upon the character of our Common Schools. They are frequently called “The bulwark of our liberties—of our free institutions.”

Perhaps it will be said “Our schools do pay well. We could not afford to do without them, though they should cost us double the present sum.”

This I readily admit. But I shall venture the broad assertion that they do not pay half so well as they *might*, or as they *ought*. Or, if you please, from one-half the present capital invested, we might, and ought to receive as much benefit, as we now do from the whole.

Let me take the Register of District No. 1, 1st term for an illustration. Whole No. scholars, 51. Length of school, 16 weeks—80 days. To show what can be done in this district, I will say that

Frank N. Chase was present 79 days,	Annie S. Roberts 78 1-2 days
Dudley W. Chase “ 78 1-2 “	Sarah E. Scammon 76 1-2 “
Amos B. Chase “ 77 “	Sarah A. Rundlett, 75 1-2 “

The average attendance of the remaining 45, was 46 days. 127 instances of tardiness, and 68 of dismissal, (and all the smaller scholars dismissed at recess in the afternoon in addition,) would bring the average down to 40 days, just one half the term.

Now any good teacher will tell you that forty days schooling, extended over a period of sixteen weeks, is not worth as much as thirty consecutive days. A large share of this non-attendance is the result of culpable indifference on the part of parents and guardians. (Scholars from this town have attended school at Exeter, term after term, boarding at home, and without once being absent or tardy. A girl has just completed her fifth term, boarding at home the most of the time, with but one instance of tardiness, and not one of absence.) Can we not, and shall we not, have a reform in this respect? And thus secure a dividend 25 to 50 per cent. greater than we now receive from the capital invested in our schools. *Will we?*

We can show our interest in our schools and thus increase their efficiency in many ways. First, by making effort to procure the *best man* for Prudential Committee,—one who will feel his responsibility, and act up to it. Too much care cannot be taken in the selection of suitable teachers. Teachers have a great and lasting influence on the young and plastic minds committed to their care. How important that that influence be salutary.

"If we work upon marble it will perish; if we work upon brass, time will efface it; if we rear temples they will crumble into dust; but if we work upon immortal minds,—if we imbue them with good principles, with the just fear of God and our fellow men, we engrave on those tablets something that will brighten through all eternity."*

I have sought to induce teachers to be faithful to the requirements of the Statute which says:—"It shall be the duty of all persons entrusted with or engaged in the instruction of the young, diligently to impress upon their minds the principles of piety and justice; a sacred regard to truth, love of country, humanity and benevolence; sobriety, industry and frugality; chastity, moderation and temperance; and all other virtues which are the ornament and support of human society," &c. Do parents ever inquire whether teachers perform this duty?

I have endeavored to impress upon the minds of scholars the truth that what they learn from their school books is not the most important part of a complete education. That good manners, good habits and good principles are of vast importance.

Parents can manifest an interest in our schools by visiting them. Several of the schools have not been visited by a parent from the commencement to the close of the term. I know the Registers show quite a list of 'visits by citizens and others;' but it is made up mostly by visits of scholars

*Webster.

from other schools. If you wish to engage a man to drive your team, you inquire if he is capable; afterward you watch him. If you set a man to work in your field, or orchard, or shop, you show your interest in his work by personal inspection. But when you place a teacher in the school room to direct, cultivate, train and mould the minds of your children, the object of your constant solicitude, for whom you rise up early, sit up late, and eat the bread of carefulness, you repeatedly pass the door without once stepping in to see what influence is there exerted. The advantage arising from visiting schools is three-fold. It benefits the parent, the teacher and the scholar. If we adopt this practice and secure the advantage, we shall no longer merit the remark made by Mr. Boltwood, late County Commissioner, in his Annual Report:—

“Stratham, considering the character and wealth of its population, has as poor schools as any town in the county. If the farmers there will do as well by their school houses and children as by their barns and orchards, they will receive good returns for their expenditure.”

The school house in No. 4 was built in 1839. Those in Nos. 1 and 3 in 1836. That in No. 2 several years previous. When erected they were considered fully up to the times. Now they are confessedly far behind. But they have been shamefully abused; and are now a standing disgrace to the town and the scholars. I have said to the scholars there is little encouragement to build new, until they learn to take better care of the old ones. There has been a partial reform in Nos. 1 and 4.

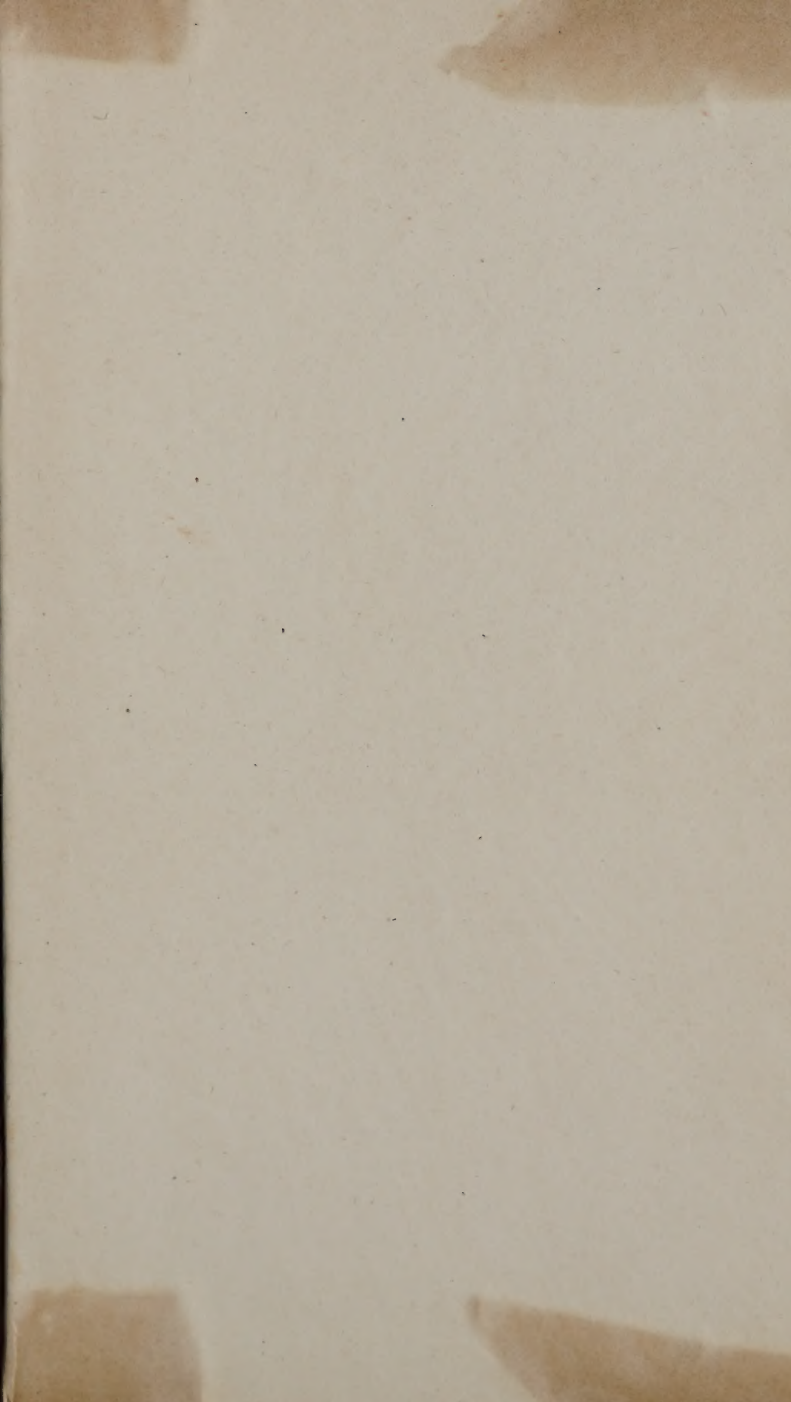
I think a few dollars worth of useful apparatus, placed in each school-room, would be money well appropriated. I would respectfully recommend the adoption of the eighth article of your warrant in relation to maps. The cost will be but \$2.50 for each district,—less than two day's schooling, one in summer and one in winter. I would also recommend that a small terrestrial globe be furnished each district.

I have directed no change of Text Books. Teachers have come with their favorite books; but I have strictly forbidden their introduction, unless carefully examined, and approved by the S. S. Committee. No text book in geography has been given for two or three years past. I would say that Cornell's Series has been introduced to take the place of Mitchel's, and Colton and Fitch's. I considered it far superior.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

P. MERRILL, *Sup. Sch. Com.*

Stratham, March 6th, 1861.



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